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**REMARKS**

The Examiner's comments from the Office Action mailed November 1, 2007 have been carefully considered. Claims 6 and 7 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants reserve the right to pursue claims 6 and 7 in a later filed continuing application. Claims 1-5 and 8-14 remain pending and claims 15-20 have been newly added. Amendments have been made to claims 1, 4, 5, and 8-14. Support for these changes can be found throughout the specification and figures. No new matter has been added.

Reexamination of claims 1-5 and 8-14, and examination and allowance of claims 15-20 are respectfully requested.

**Amendments to the Specification**

Editorial revisions have been made to the specification to add subject headings and to address formal matters.

**Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102**

Claims 1-2, 4-6, 8 and 9 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Publication No. 2005/0135753 to Eigenmann et al. (hereinafter "Eigenmann"). Claim 6 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, thereby rendering the rejection moot. With respect to claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 8, and 9, Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claim 1 recites, in part, plug-in connectors each including an arresting part having a T-shaped attachment configured to be inserted into a first end of a guiding groove and biased by a compression spring in an axial direction to a second end of the guiding groove, wherein the first end of the guiding groove is wider than the second end.

Eigenmann does not disclose or suggest plug-in connectors each including an arresting part having a T-shaped attachment configured to be inserted into a first end of a guiding groove and biased by a compression spring in an axial direction to a second end of the guiding groove. Eigenmann also does not disclose or suggest a guiding groove having a first end that is wider than a second end. Furthermore, no reason is provided in Eigenmann or elsewhere to modify Eigenmann to recite the features of claim 1.

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For at least these reasons, Eigenmann does not anticipate claim 1. Claims 2, 4-6, 8, and 9 depend from claim 1 and are allowable for at least the same reasons. Withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of claims 1, 2, 4-6, 8, and 9 are respectfully requested. Applicants do not otherwise concede the correctness of the rejection and reserve the right to make additional arguments if necessary.

**Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103**

Claims 3 and 10-14 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Eigenmann. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claims 3 and 10-14 depend from claim 1 and are allowable over Eigenmann for at least the same reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 1. Accordingly, Eigenmann would not lead a person skilled in the art to the invention of claims 3 and 10-14. Withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of claims 3 and 10-14 are respectfully requested. Applicants do not otherwise concede the correctness of the rejection and reserve the right to make additional arguments if necessary.

Claim 7 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Eigenmann in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,932,514 to Anderson et al. (hereinafter "Anderson"). Claim 7 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, thereby rendering the rejection moot. Subject matter from claim 7 has been incorporated into claim 1. To the extent the above rejection applies to amended claim 1, Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claim 1 is allowable over Eigenmann for at least the reasons discussed above. Anderson does not overcome the shortcomings of Eigenmann. Anderson also does not disclose or suggest plug-in connectors each including an arresting part having a T-shaped attachment configured to be inserted into a first end of a guiding groove and biased by a compression spring in an axial direction to a second end of the guiding groove. Anderson also does not disclose or suggest a guiding groove having a first end that is wider than a second end.

For at least these reasons, Eigenmann would not lead a person having skill in the art to the invention of claim 1, even in view of Anderson. Allowance of claim 1 is respectfully requested.

### New Claims

To the extent the above rejections are applicable to new claims 15-18, the rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claim 15 recites, in part, a first latch arrangement of a first plug-in connector that is configured to remain radially fixed with respect to a first ferrule of the first plug-in connector.

None of the cited references disclose or suggest a first latch arrangement of a first plug-in connector that is configured to remain radially fixed with respect to a first ferrule of the first plug-in connector. Both Eigenmann and Anderson disclose latches which deflect radially inwardly to engage and release a coupling.

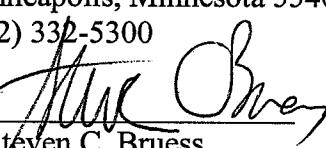
For at least these reasons, the cited references do not disclose or suggest claim 15. New claims 16-18 depend from claim 15 and are allowable for at least the same reasons. Examination and allowance of claims 15-18 are respectfully requested.

### Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request a Notice of Allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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